

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20

RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15

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R 261130Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7911

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 2195

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CY

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION OF GOC PROTEST OVER ATTENDANCE AT TURK CYPRIOT
NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS

REF: NICOSIA 2174

SUMMARY: EMBASSY HAS REACHED UNDERSTANDING WITH FOREIGN
MINISTRY PER LINES REFTEL WITH THEIR ASSURANCE THAT
NO OTHER EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO LIMIT US ATTENDANCE
AT TURKISH AFFAIRS IF WE DECLINE FORMAL INVITATIONS TO
TURK CYPRIOT SPONSORED CELEBRATIONS PEGGED TO TURKISH
NATIONAL DAY. TURK CYPRIOT MINISTER OREK TAKES CALMLY
AND WE BELIEVE TURKISH AMB MAY HAVE ACTUALLY WARNED HIM
AGAINST EFFORT TO CONVOKE DIPLOMATIC CORPS SO FORMALLY.
END SUMMAYR.

1. I RAISED PROBLEM OF GOC WARNING AGAINST ATTENDANCE
AT CERTAIN TURKISH NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS IN
APPROACH TO FONMIN AND DIRGEN VENIAMIN OCT 25.

2. I TAXED MINISTRY WITH ABRUPTNESS AND MANNER OF ITS
APPROACH, WITH DAMAGE IT IS DOING TO RELATIONS WITH TURKS,
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AND

WITH PROBLEMS IT CAUSED FOR US.

3. MINISTRY'S REAL PROBLEM CLEARLY IS FEAR THAT TCPA IS TRYING TO ESTABLISH ANOTHER SYMBOLIC ATTRIBUTE OF SOVEREIGNTY BY CONVOKING DIPLOMATIC CORPS, BUT IT CONTINUES TO COUCH ARGUMENT IN TERMS OF OREK'S MINISTERIAL PRETENSIONS AND ON PRINCIPLE THAT CYPRIOTS SHOULD NOT INVITE DIPLOMATS TO THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONAL DAYS. ON LATTER POINT, WE HAVE COME TO FOLLOWING UNDERSTANDING:

(A) WE WOULD HONOR MINISTRY'S REQUEST NOT TO ATTEND THOSE CEREMONIES TO WHICH MINISTER OREK HAD SENT US FORMAL WRITTEN INVITATIONS ON OCCASION OF TURKISH NATIONAL DAY.

(B) THIS UNDERSTANDING APPLIED ONLY TO ANNUAL TURKISH NATIONAL DAY, AND WE WOULD APPLY SAME PRINCIPLE TO ANY GREEK CYPRIOT INVITATION TO GREEK NATIONAL DAY MARCH 25.

(C) THIS AGREEMENT APPLIES TO OFFICIAL INVITATIONS FROM GOC OR TURKISH ADMINISTRATION, NOT TO PRIVATE INVITATIONS.

(D) WE WOULD FEEL FREE TO ATTEND OTHER OPEN HOUSES, ETC.

(E) WE WILL OF COURSE ACCEPT INVITATIONS FROM TURKISH AMB. OR CONTINGENT COMMANDER FOR TURKISH NATIONAL DAY AFFAIRS.

4. AGREED THAT THIS SET OF GUIDELINES WAS BASED UPON FOLLOWING UNDERSTANDING:

(A) MINISTRY WOULD NOT MAKE ANY ATTEMPT TO LIMIT OR CONTROL OUR ACCESS TO TURK CYPRIOTS.

(B) GOC WOULD HONOR UNDERSTANDING THAT THIRD COUNTRY PRINCIPLE WAS IMPARTIAL, AND GOC WOULD NOT INVITE DIPLOMATS TO GREEK NATIONAL DAY.

(C) MINISTRY WILL NOT ISSUE SIMILAR INSTRUCTIONS TO LIMIT THE RIGHT TO ACCEPT INVITATIONS ON OTHER TURKISH HOLIDAYS.
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5. MINISTER "AGREED TO DISAGREE" AS TO WHETHER OREK IS ENTITLED TO TITLE OF MINISTER. WE MADE CLEAR WE INTENDED TO ACCEPT INVITATIONS FROM HIM IN THAT CAPACITY.

6. WE BRIEFED OREK IN DETAIL ON DISCUSSION IN MINISTRY. HE EXPRESSED SORROW BUT NO RECRIMINATION AGAINST US. WE THINK THAT FACT WE GOT SOMETHING FROM GREEKS, THAT WE WERE

THE ONLY EMBASSY TO BUCK THE ORDER AND GET FORMAL COMMITMENTS FROM GOC, AND FACT THAT WE CAME PERSONALLY TO EXPRESS REGRET MAY HAVE MITIGATED HIS REACTION.

7. WE HAVE INFORMED AMB. INHAN BRIEFLY OF ENTIRE EXCHANGE. HE REALIZES THERE WILL BE NO DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION AT TURK CYPRIOT SPONSORED FORMAL OCCASIONS. HE DISCLAIMED DIRECT RESPONSIBILITY AND REMARKED THAT HE HAD "NOT BEEN HAPPY" WITH WAY INVITATIONS WERE ISSUED BY TURK CYPRIOTS, BUT THIS WAS NOT HIS IMMEDIATE AFFAIR. WE SUSPECT HE MAY HAVE WARNED OREK AGAINST MASSIVE EFFORT TO TURN DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY OUT FOR NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS.

8. MEMCON FOLLOWS.

9. FOR ANKARA: HOPE EXPLANATION ABOVE WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH SUFFICIENT AMMUNITION TO HANDLE ANY APPROACH FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY.
GRANT

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